

Hunting for Horror Behind Serb Lines

In this exclusive account, Christian Science Monitor correspondent David Rohde describes his search for mass graves in Bosnian Serb territory after the fall of the Srebrenica and Zepa "safe areas" in July. Rohde was arrested on Oct. 29 by Bosnian Serbs, interrogated, and convicted of illegally entering the territory and falsifying documents. He was released on Nov. 8 after being cleared of all charges.

By David Rohde

At the first Bosnian Serb checkpoint, everything started to go wrong. The Serb soldiers who normally let foreign journalists drive on their own to the nearby military barracks and request a press accreditation insisted they ride with me.

I said I knew the way, but one young soldier circled around the car and opened the passenger side door. I shouted "I know...I know" in Serbian. He shrugged, shut the door and waved me through.

I had no intention of stopping at the barracks. I didn't want a new Bosnian Serb press accreditation—a small, flimsy unlaminated cardboard card with the name and date of issue and expiration

filled in with ballpoint pen. An old accreditation that I had changed the date of issue on was hidden in the car.

I had never doctored an accreditation before, but the Bosnian Serbs had turned down repeated requests from the United Nations, the International War



David Rohde

Crimes Tribunal, and journalists for free access to the areas around Srebrenica and Zepa since the two UN-declared "safe areas" fell in July. I had been told by Serb friends that I was on a Bosnian Serb "black list" of reporters for my past reporting and would never be allowed to enter their territory again.

In August, I visited the site of two possible mass graves identified by U.S. aerial photos near Srebrenica. I found a decomposed human leg, a diploma and personal photos with Muslim names on them, and documents from Srebrenica.

In September, I'd found nine credible survivors of mass executions who had made it from Srebrenica to Muslim-held Central Bosnia. They described the mass execution of thousands of prisoners at a half dozen locations.

A few days before I left on the trip, an intelligence source had given me the exact location of four other possible mass graves around Srebrenica identified by U.S. spy planes and satellites. Landmarks the survivors said were near the execution sites, such as dams and railroad tracks, matched the locations the intelligence source had given me.

After the problems at the first checkpoint, the three-hour drive to the sites went smoothly. I was forced at one checkpoint to give a Bosnian Serb soldier a ride for 30 miles, but made it to

the first site near the village of Sahanici by early afternoon.

I found a school whose layout and surroundings exactly matched a school that survivors said was used to hold prisoners before they were taken in groups of 10-15 to the execution site. A half mile away, I found two large areas of fresh digging on either side of nearby railroad tracks—exactly where my intelligence source and the survivors had said they would be.

Over one hundred civilians jackets with no bullet holes in them were hidden in the woods 100 feet away. There were no indications of a battle being fought. An ID from Srebrenica, an ID and photos with Muslim names on them, and three canes were found in the pile of jackets. One of the areas of fresh digging reeked of rotting flesh.

As I stepped out of the car to take a photo, I heard a man shout. He was pointing a rifle at me. I was finished.

U.S. intelligence officials said the graves I had visited in Nova Kasabs could have held approximately 600 bodies. These appeared slightly larger and held probably 800 bodies.

I took photos, hid the IDs in the car, and headed for a second execution site next to a nearby earthen dam, according to two other survivors I interviewed. I fruitlessly searched an area east of the dam for 30 minutes, found nothing, and then saw an old man walking in the distance with a dog.

I decided to check one last area—a
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Press Abuses in 6 Nations Keep OPC Committee Busy

By Norman A. Schorr, Dinah Lee
and Larry Martz

In recent months, the OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee has actively protested press freedom abuses in six countries: Azerbaijan, Paraguay, Turkey, Jordan, Russia and Zambia. The cases, summarized below, involve arrests, harassment and violence directed against journalists as well as news organizations.

•Until her acquittal last month, Reuters Turkey correspondent **Aliza Marcus** faced up to three years in prison for allegedly intending to incite "racial hatred," a violation of the Turkish Penal Code. The charges stemmed from a report Marcus had written about a year earlier analyzing the Turkish government's military campaign against armed Kurdish separatists in southeastern Turkey. The article had been reprinted in the opposition newspaper, *Ozgur Ulke*, which was later shut down by Turkish authorities.

The OPC called the charges "of questionable legality under both Turkish law and international covenants to which Turkey is a signatory," and urged that the "threatened injustice" be withdrawn. Marcus was finally acquitted on the recommendation of the court prosecution "for insufficient evidence."

•Russia's NTV television company faces legal action for a July 8 episode of the program "Kukly." Authorities charged that the "Kremlin Vagabonds" episode, a political satire featuring life-

size puppets, "portrayed high state officials in an insulting manner, and public and premeditated humiliation of their dignity and credibility has been permitted in the mass media in an indecent fashion." The OPC has urged President Yeltsin to drop the suit, saying it "could have a chilling effect on press freedom in Russia."

•In Azerbaijan, three writers of satirical articles for the *Chesme* newspaper face charges of "insulting the honor and dignity of the President of the country." They were arrested and held in isolation, pending trial. The Committee has asked for immediate release of the three journalists, and in addition, revision of legislation under which such charges could be brought.

•In Paraguay, correspondents for the Asuncion daily *ABC Color* and for Canal 9TN, both of whom reported on a Brazilian drug cartel, have received a series of death threats. An anonymous caller said the journalists would be killed if they continued to report on the drug trafficker. The OPC has urged Paraguay's president to issue a public statement condemning the threats, and to order authorities to provide protection for the correspondents.

•In Jordan, a correspondent for the Arabic-language newspaper *Al-Hayat*, published in London, was arrested in connection with an article deemed "harmful to national unity," and "without consideration to objectivity, fairness

and accuracy." The article cited unnamed Jordanian officials as saying that the government was investigating the extent of Iraqi influence in media and business circles. Pointing out that the arrest violated Article 19 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the Committee has called on Jordan to drop the charges.

•For his coverage of government corruption, **Fred M'membe**, director general and editor-in-chief of *The Post*, faces prison terms totaling more than 100 years if convicted of the many crimes lodged against him. This year he and three of his colleagues have been subjected to repeated arrests, litigation and general harassment. M'membe is accused of treason, violation of the State Security Act, criminal libel and defamation of Zambia's president — a charge for which proving truth is no defense.

Deploing M'membe's treatment as "reprehensible and incompatible with the democratic principles that Zambia endorses," the OPC has called for an end to his persecution.

In addition, the Committee was prepared to act in the case of **David Rhode**, a correspondent for *The Christian Science Monitor* who had been jailed by the Bosnian Serbs (see page 1). The *Monitor* told the OPC that they were working out details of Rhode's release, and asked the FOP Committee to hold off any protest. Fortunately, Rhode was freed after being held for 10 days.

Norman A. Schorr, Dinah Lee and Larry Martz are members of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee.

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BEHIND SERB LINES

(Continued from Page 1)

second gravel plateau—which fit the survivors' description of where the massacre took place. I pulled up onto the plateau and saw two human femurs lying on the gravel and other small objects in the distance.

As I stepped out of the car to take a photo of them, I heard the old man—who I thought had simply walked by the dam—shout. He was on top of the dam pointing a rifle at me. I was finished.

The old man, who I then realized was guarding the dam, arrested me and called the local police. Five days of interrogation at a local police station followed, with the Bosnian Serbs convinced I was a spy sent by the Muslim-led Bosnian government or NATO to take pictures of, or blow up, the earthen dam.

The detailed UN military maps they found on me had marks indicating where the graves were. I knew carrying the maps would be dangerous, but also knew being able to quickly find the graves was crucial.

I carried all of my press accreditations—including numerous Bosnian and Croatian government ones that angered

the Serbs—but they ended up being crucial to countering the espionage suspicions. Most importantly, they bought me time.

The maps quickly became my biggest problem. The Serbs were convinced only a spy could obtain and read military maps and penetrate so deeply

The Serbs were convinced only a spy could obtain military maps and penetrate so deeply into their territory.

into their territory. Even after I admitted I was looking for mass graves and the Serbs told me they knew of my past stories, they insisted I was a journalist who was also on the CIA payroll.

It wasn't until after they had developed my film, found the Muslim IDs, and conducted five days of interrogation—which included one night of not being allowed to sleep—that the Serbs

publicly admitted they were holding me. In the end it was the photos of mass graves, not military installations as the Serbs suspected, that may have saved my life.

I made many, many mistakes, but by far the biggest was going on the trip alone. I had never travelled alone in Bosnia. This time I chose not to take a translator because it would be unfair to place anyone in so much danger and I could get by with my Serbian. I also turned down an opportunity to bring a reporter from *The New York Times* with me for competitive reasons.

In retrospect, I should have waited and found a British or French reporter to accompany me. But Sarajevo was empty at the time and I was eager to make the trip on Sunday, Oct. 29—the day before peace talks began in Dayton, Ohio. Pressure brought on the Clinton Administration by 10 members of my family who went to the talks resulted in my release.

I later reached the graves I wanted to and the Serbs again followed their long-running pattern of harassing, but not harming Western civilians, as I hoped. In the end, it was a calculated risk worth taking.

Japan Club Celebrates 50th Anniversary

By Patrick J. Killen

TOKYO—Born in the early days of the Allied occupation of Japan that followed World War II, the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan celebrated its 50th anniversary with champagne, music and a minimum of speeches at a Tokyo hotel Nov. 21.

The 620 guests included Prince Hitachi, the brother of Emperor Akihito, and his princess, scores of friends and club members, and 11 former presidents of the club.

Jim Lagier, the AP bureau chief in Tokyo and the current club president, was cheered loudly when he proclaimed the FCCJ as “probably the third largest, and in fact, definitely the best press club on the face of the earth.”

Lagier toasted the imperial family and paid homage “to Japan as a great country that affords us the press freedom we need to do our jobs honestly.” He concluded with a champagne toast to the press club and said, “May it flourish for a hundred years.”

In his brief remarks in English,

Prince Hitachi congratulated the club on playing a “unique and important role in the life and times of modern Japan” and its members for service “as a special communications bridge between Japan and the world.” The prince concluded by saying, “May your next 50 years be as memorable as your first half-century.”

Well-wishers filled to capacity the Pearl Ballroom of the Capitol Tokyu Hotel for the dinner, which included three types of wine and an impressive buffet. Entertainment included operatic soprano Junko Ikeuchi, Canadian singer Holly Anzen, jazz and string quartets and Aiji Okada and his dance band.

Former club presidents attending, with their present or former affiliations, included **John Roderick** of AP, **John Rich** of NBC, **Mack Chrysler** of *U.S. News & World Report*, **Al Cullison** of the *Daily Telegraph*, who is an OPC member; **Bruce Dunning** of CBS, **Jack Russell** of NBC, **Karel van Wolferen** of *N.C.R. Handelsblad*, **Naoaki Usui** of McGraw-Hill, **David Powers** of the BBC, **Lew Simons** of Knight-Ridder,

and **Gebhard Hielscher** of *Suddeutsche Zeitung*.

The Tokyo press club was founded in November 1945 initially to provide a hostel for foreign journalists and to help them in reporting on Japan. The club no longer provides living quarters but has a research library, a workroom, several incoming wire services and TV news channels, a dining room and two bars.

From its original 170 members, the club hit a high of 2,019 members, including regular and associates, in 1990. Since then, the combination of the high Japanese yen and Japan's domestic economic troubles has cut membership to around 1,750, with some 400 regular and professional associate members.

For the 50th anniversary, the club's monthly newspaper, *The No. 1 Shimbun*, published a 44-page special edition with the club history, special stories, and pictures of past presidents and special guests.

Patrick J. Killen is editor of No. 1 Shimbun, the monthly newspaper of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan.

Journal Editor Discusses Foreign Coverage

The following remarks by Wall Street Journal Foreign Editor **John Bussey** are excerpted from a recent interview in *TJFR Business News Reporter*. Bussey has been foreign editor of the *Journal* since the fall of 1994. A 12-year veteran of the paper, he is a former Tokyo bureau chief and Page One staff editor and writer.

How much and in what way has international news changed in recent years?

The overseas story has changed a lot. It used to be North versus South or West versus East, capitalism versus communism, nonaligned versus aligned. All of those barriers have, one way or the other, either broken down or become much more porous. So today it's developed nations and developing nations. The new scorecard out there isn't a communist advance or a capitalist advance. The new scorecard is trade. It's individual economic well-being. And frankly that's our story; that's our bread and butter. If we think it needs explaining to our readers, we're just going to jump in wholesale.

What do you look for in an international dispatch?

There is no specific set of criteria. The stories that we're after are precisely the same type of story that the *Journal* reader comes to the main *Journal* for. We want economic, business, corporate, political and markets stories from abroad—to put a face on the competition; to describe for readers where they may have an opportunity for business expansion abroad; to describe to them what's happening in broad terms in the economic realm overseas. But those are not to the exclusion of other types of stories. We recently did a story on the future of Islam—an extraordinarily potent force in the world. We did another story on deteriorating U.S.-China relations. We've done stories that hold up Bosnia as a mirror to the rest of Europe. Those are important, good stories, but our bread and butter is to give readers the same type of economic, business, corporate, financial and markets coverage that we do every day in any domestic bureau in the U.S.

The chief story abroad right now is the economic transformation...toward market economies, and that is absolutely

core to what the *Journal* is all about. That is our focus.

What characteristics do you look for in a reporter before sending that person to a foreign post?

Generally, we send people abroad who have done well on the domestic paper; people who are good feature writers and good synthesizers of complex ideas into front-page leders and stories for other sections of the paper. I don't think the criteria differ that much



John Bussey

from what we would be looking for in a good domestic reporter. Language ability plays a role, though it wouldn't exclude someone from being sent overseas. It might give them a little bit of a leg up, depending on the country. We want good thinkers, good writers, good distillers who will really do the work for our readers.

Given that many newsrooms are full of graying Boomers who have spouses with careers and children, is it more difficult to find people to send overseas?

I think that there is still a big appeal to working overseas. I am not sure that age really is the factor. I'm happy to pack up a footlocker full of Geritol and send it along with him or her. If they're a great writer, I'll find some way to make it as comfortable as possible for them. But that's not really an issue. The bigger issue is what we're finding in the rest of the workplace: dual-career families and finding a way to make sure that that is taken into consideration. There are still all sorts of creative ways to get somebody overseas who is eager to go. Some think that a family is another barrier to getting overseas, because of costs. That's not true. If the person's really good—if we want the person to be overseas—having a family is not going to make any difference. As a matter of fact, it can be a bonus because the person sees the story through the additional eyes of his or her family.

How have your foreign-desk operations been changing?

On my staff, you've seen a growth in the China staff. We're gone from one to three reporters with a new bureau chief in the last two years. In Latin America we've gone from three reporters to seven reporters with one slot to be filled in Santiago. We're going to place a roving reporter in India because that's become such an important story for us, as well as the broader Southeast Asia story. On the foreign page, we're trying to synthesize for the reader important themes and topics. At times, we'll now run large surveys. We have six columns of space. We'll give two-thirds of that, four columns, to one topic, like the Japanese banking crisis or the Mexican economy or investing in Latin America or the growth of the conglomerates in China.

Latin America seems to be a big priority with the *Journal* these days. Correct?

It's a top priority along with all the other top priorities. That's because there is such a fascinating story going on there. It's another one of these transition-economy stories that's just rich with material for our readers—opportunities for our readers, as well. In addition to that, we've had this tremendously successful Americas edition of the paper that has gotten great reviews. I think what you're seeing is us staffing up there because the story has changed. It's become an economics story. Before it was ossified as a authoritarian-government and political story, and there really wasn't a lot on the economic front to report. Now, that's completely changed.

Edward R. Murrow Fellowship at CFR

The Council on Foreign Relations is announcing the Edward R. Murrow Fellowship competition for 1996-97. The recipient must be an American citizen. The Council is especially interested in a correspondent or editor, or a producer for radio or television, who is either now serving abroad or plans to return to a foreign posting. The fellowship enables a journalist to be in residence at the Council's headquarters for nine months. The deadline for applications is Feb. 1, 1996. Contact is Elise Carlson Lewis at (212) 734-0400, fax (212) 861-2701.



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PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

ATLANTA: Eason Jordan, senior vice president for international news gathering at CNN, has been named head of CNN International, the network's global news arm.

BANGKOK: The Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand has moved from its longtime location, the Dusit Thani Hotel, to the recently-opened Jewelry Trade Center. Its new 12th-floor clubhouse includes a bar, restaurant and lounge. Acting club manager is **Panjavilai Song-lin**. OPC board member **Elinor Griest**, who has been actively forging relations with other press clubs, is awaiting reply from the Bangkok club to her proposal for reciprocal privileges.

CAIRO: Ted Stanndard, a former UPI reporter in Jakarta and Tokyo, is now chairman of the Journalism Department at American University in Cairo. Along with other Western reporters, Stanndard was expelled from Indonesia by President Sukarno before the 1965 attempted communist coup. While Stanndard, who spoke Indonesian and was considered one of the best-informed journalists on that nation, was in UPI's Tokyo bureau monitoring broadcasts from Jakarta on the uprising, he received an unexpected telephone call from the opposition: AP was calling to ask Ted what it all meant. Politely, a UPI editor told AP that Ted was too busy to talk with AP. After leaving UPI, Stanndard headed the journalism program at Western Washington University in Bellingham.

GRANVILLE, OHIO: Longtime member **Beverly Rowe**, a retired journalist, is enjoying some success at another type of writing these days—poetry. One of her poems was selected for publication in *Best Poems of 1995*, published by the National Library of Poetry.

GULFPORT, FLA: Bob Hecox started covering wars as a U.S. Army combat cameraman in Italy in World War II, when standard equipment was the bulky 4x5" Speed Graphic and the Bell & Howell Eyemo. Hecox, who was

nominated for an OPC award in 1954 and edited the club's 1972 *Dateline*, has published a book that recounts his work from the now extinct occupation of newsreel cameraman to his pioneering days in the new medium, television. *Foreign Correspondent: Life in a Shooting Gallery* is peppered with the experiences of colleagues and competitors who shared his assignments covering Arab-Jewish battles, Greek Civil War, Korean War and the Vietnam War. During seven years with Paramount News and five years with NBC News, Hecox estimates he shot 215,000 feet (41 miles) of film. The \$10 book can be ordered from Hecox, 5940 30th Avenue S., No. 315, Gulfport, Fla. 33707.



Bob Hecox

ISTANBUL: Aliza Marcus, a Reuters correspondent in Turkey, was cleared by the State Security Court in Istanbul on Nov. 9 of charges that she incited racial hatred with a dispatch on the Turkish army's campaign against Kurdish guerrillas (see page 2). She faced a three-year sentence for an article published a year ago in a pro-Kurdish daily, *Ozgur Ulke*. "I always thought there was nothing wrong with the article and now I can get back to work and concentrate on my job instead of the trial," she said.



Aliza Marcus

JERUSALEM: Former *Time* magazine World section editor **Johanna McGeary** has taken up a posting in Jerusalem as senior foreign correspondent. She is partly filling in for bureau chief **Lisa Beyer**, who is on maternity leave. But she also has a mandate to become a "writer-analyst-reporter," the magazine told readers. That means she will be "parachuting in on big stories, anticipating news in longer researched pieces and writing foreign-affairs analy-

sis out of New York." McGeary was one of four *Time* editors and reporters who spoke at the OPC's fall luncheon in September 1994.

LONDON: *Wall Street Journal* staff reporter **Daniel Pearl** will join the paper's London bureau before year's end, filling a vacancy created when Dana Milbank relocated to the Washington bureau. Pearl will cover macroeconomics, general assignments, features and some spot news.

LOS ANGELES: Christopher Parkes, former bureau chief of *The Financial Times* in Bonn, Frankfurt and Singapore, has been transferred to Los Angeles by international editor **Peter Martin**.

NAIROBI: OPC member **Gerry Loughran**, a longtime UPI correspondent in Europe and the U.S., has returned to Kenya for another stint on the *Daily Nation*. At the newspaper, he said, "I get the chance to harrumph in editorials whereas with UPI you could only do it on the message wire."

NEW DELHI: *The Washington Post* has dispatched **Ken Cooper** to India, replacing **Molly Moore** and **John Anderson**, who have returned to Washington. Moore is author of *A Woman at War: Storming Kuwait with the U.S. Marines*. She addressed the OPC in New York in June 1993.

NEW YORK: **Marlene Sanders**, the first woman to cover the Vietnam War for network television and the first woman to serve as vice president of a network news operation, joins the soon-to-be-launched Prime Life Network as a news anchor. The new network, which will be aimed at viewers over 50, is going after what it describes as "one of the country's most attractive and underserved population segments." Sanders, who spent 14 years at ABC and 10 at CBS, says she definitely won't miss working for one of the major networks; "Been there and done that," she says.

◆
Walter Isaacson, formerly head of Time Inc.'s new media development, has replaced **James Gaines** as managing editor of *Time*.

◆
The AP recently announced several

new foreign appointments. **Reid Miller**, 61, bureau chief in Nairobi, became bureau chief in Seoul. **David Thurber**, 46, Tokyo, moved to Manila as bureau chief, replacing **Robert Reid**, 48, who was transferred to the United Nations. **Susan Linnee**, 53, became bureau chief in Nairobi, moving from Madrid, where she was chief of Iberian Services for Spain and Portugal. **Andrew Selsky**, 39, bureau chief in Bogota, replaced Linnee in Madrid.

◆
Ko Shioya, a former correspondent for AP and *Reader's Digest*, is the new bureau chief and editor-at-large in New York City for *Bungei Shunju*, one of Japan's largest magazine and book publishers. "My job is to report on U.S. affairs for eight of our 10 magazines, to develop a network of U.S. writers who are versed on Asian affairs and to look for business tie-ups with American publishers," he said after making several new contacts at the OPC's Oct. 3 forum on U.S.-Japan relations. Ko worked for AP in Tokyo, Chicago and New York before joining *Reader's Digest* in 1968 as the first overseas journalist to go through a two-year training program in the magazine's headquarters in Pleasantville, N.Y. He was editor-in-chief of the *Digest's* Japanese edition until it was closed in 1986 and then helped found *Business Tokyo*, a New York-based English-language magazine. He later wrote for *Asia Inc.*, published in Hong Kong.



Ko Shioya

◆
Bloomberg Business News has opened a spate of new overseas bureaus in recent months, and several New York-based correspondents have been sent to staff the new outposts. They include: **Hui-Yong Yu** to Johannesburg; **Rob Daniel** to Tel Aviv; **Alec McCabe** to Shanghai; and **Rob Cox**, to Milan, where he is the new bureau chief. In addition, **Jane Baird** has joined Bloomberg's London bureau from the *Houston Chronicle*.

◆
William Prochnau's new book, *Once Upon a Distant War: Young War Correspondents and the Early Vietnam Battles* (Times Books/Random House), describes the work of American corre-

spondents who covered the Vietnam War in the early 1960s. In its review, *The New York Times* said that in Prochnau's view these reporters "represented a new breed of journalist that was smart, skeptical, ambitious and, most significantly, a generation removed from what he (Prochnau) calls the 'old guard': the veterans of World War II and Korea who were able to identify with the American cause and therefore serve almost as another branch of the military." The author concentrates on reporters **Malcolm Browne**, **Peter Arnett** and **Horst Faas**, all of AP; **Neil Sheehan**, UPI; **Charley Mohr**, *Time*; and **David Halberstam**, *The New York Times*.

◆
Four journalists received 1995 Maria Moors Cabot Prizes from Columbia University on Oct. 26 for promoting press freedom and inter-American understanding. They were **Douglas C. Farah**, Central America and Caribbean correspondent for *The Washington Post*; **Canute W. James**, Caribbean correspondent for *The Financial Times*; **Geri L. Smith**, Mexico City bureau chief for *Business Week*; and **Jose Ruben Zamora Marroquin**, editor of the daily newspaper *Siglo Veintiuno* of Guatemala. Each received \$1,000 and a gold medal. A special citation was awarded to **I. Roberto Eisenmann Jr.**, founding editor and publisher of the daily *La Prensa* of Panama.

◆
PARIS: Bloomberg has promoted Paris-based transportation editor **Andrea Rothman** to bureau chief. Rothman was formerly transportation editor at *Business Week* magazine in New York.

◆
Barry James of the *International Herald Tribune* is the new president of the Anglo-American Press Association in Paris. Vice presidents are **Michael Balter**, *Science* magazine, and **Mary Pollain**, *Education* magazine. Other officers: **Axel Krause**, *International Herald Tribune*, secretary general; **Harry Dunphy**, AP, treasurer; **David Pearson**, AP-Dow Jones, syndic; and committee members **Aline Mosby**, freelance; **Pat Thomson**, ABC News; author **Harriet Welty Rochefort**, **John Flint**, **Georgina Oliver**, **John Pollain** of Reuters, **Peter Dewhirst** of *The Evening Standard* and **Craig Whitney** of *The New York Times*.

SAN JOSE: **Judith Broadhurst**, founder of *Freelance Success*, and **Teresa Mears**, formerly an editor with *The Miami Herald* and *The Los Angeles Times*, have started an enhanced version of the freelancer's newsletter, now available on a private Internet weekly mailing list or in a monthly print edition. Broadhurst can be telephoned at (408) 336-4234, Mears at (305) 757-8854.

SEOUL: The Seoul Foreign Correspondents Club has welcomed 34 new members recently and President **B.J. Lee** reports that the number of activities is also increasing. On Nov. 9 and 10, for example, the club hosted the Fourth Colloquium of Foreign Journalists in Northeast Asia jointly with the Korea Press Center. The subject was North Korea. On the social front, the club has been holding Friday night receptions to celebrate the renovation of its bar. OPC has established reciprocal relations.

◆
TOKYO: *The Oregonian* is the latest news organization to cut back in Tokyo. Citing higher costs, the newspaper is closing a one-person bureau, ordering **Alan Ohta** to return to Portland.

◆
A Japanese documentary film is being made on the life of UPI photographer **Kyoichi Sawada**, who won several international prizes for his coverage of the Vietnam War before he was killed. The film will include interviews with Sawada's war correspondent colleagues including **Leon Daniel** and **Bob Kaylor**. Sawada won OPC awards in 1966 and 1967; a Pulitzer Prize in 1966; the 1965 grand prize at the 9th annual World Press Photo Exhibition in the Hague; and the 1971 Capa Award. Sawada, who covered more than 80 battles and campaigns in Indochina, and UPI correspondent **Frank Frosh** were found dead on Highway 2 in Cambodia on Oct. 29, 1970.

WASHINGTON: *The Washington Post* logged the time that each U.S. television network broadcast its first bulletin on the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Nov. 4. The Israeli leader was shot at 2:30 p.m., New York time. CNN reported the shooting at 3:08 p.m., CBS at 3:09 p.m. and ABC at 3:30 p.m. At 3:27 p.m., NBC said shots were fired but Rabin was not hit. At 3:45 p.m., NBC reported that the prime minister had been shot.

LETTERS

President's Comments On Asia Coverage

Dear OPC:

I haven't been around much, but I read the *Bulletin*, counting the names and marvelling at all the various fates.

I'm writing to say what a good President's piece Bill Holstein wrote about Asia coverage—retreating when we should be building (November issue). It is precisely the point and I'm glad someone made it.

Patrick Smith
Grant Farm, Ashpohtag Road
Norfolk, Conn. 06058

Dear OPC:

Contrary to Bill Holstein's President's Corner column in the November *Bulletin*, the *Los Angeles Times* has no intention of "retreating from covering huge areas of Asia." We fully appreciate the importance of news about Asia and the Pacific Rim to American readers.

Accordingly, we plan to re-establish a South East Asia bureau in the coming months. The new correspondent will join the three staff correspondents in Tokyo, and the staff correspondents in Beijing, Hong Kong and New Delhi in providing coverage of this vital region.

We opened the Hong Kong bureau this year, before temporarily closing the South East Asia office based in Singapore. Throughout 1995, therefore, *The Times* has maintained its staffing in Asia at six correspondents. The appoint-

ment of a seventh correspondent in 1996 will represent an advance, not a retreat.

Simon K.C. Li
Foreign Editor
Los Angeles Times

Reciprocal Benefits— A Real Asset

Dear OPC:

You guys are doing a tremendous job of revitalizing the club. Keep it up. I particularly urge you and Elinor Griest to enlarge and expand the clubs with which the OPC has reciprocal relationships. Over the past 25 years, I've used the facilities at clubs in London, The Hague, Vienna, Hong Kong, Washington, San Francisco, Houston, Dallas and even San Antonio. Some of them probably no longer exist. But reciprocal relationships go a long way to make membership in the OPC more attractive.

William F. Bland, Publisher
International Oil News
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Hal Boyle Remembered

Dear OPC:

What a great piece George Burns crafted about Hal Boyle (October issue) and how right he is. I used to go downtown many a night to the apartment (I believe it was in Cooper Village) to get Hal home and then chat with [his wife] Frances. She was without doubt one of the nicest people ever to walk the earth. Sometimes she and I would have lunch

together at the old Chalet Suisse, and she really never ever complained about Hal's personal habits. Instead she would brag about his most recent column. I got to know Hal through some of his Kansas City friends and then later with Stan Swinton. He was a super guy. In fact, that whole AP Features office was staffed with some wonderful people—Vivian Brown, Dorothy Roe, Cynthia Lowrey, Saul Pett, etc. It was an experience just to watch them operate, churning out thousands and thousands of words a day. Anyway, thanks for taking me down memory lane.

Paul E. Morgan
3213 North Ocean Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33308

Dear OPC:

What a delight going down memory lane with George Burns and Hal Boyle. Thanks for remembering. In War II, working closely with Hal at times from Africa through to the meetings with the Russians at Torgau, I found he was always a great reporter and great fun. As I recall it, we were among the first to meet with the Russians. We pulled a racing scull off the rack at the Torgau boat house on the banks of the river. With Hal taking the bow oar and with me pulling from the stern oar, we made it to the East Bank and the Russkies. Wish I'd had time to enjoy him more at the bar after the war.

Gordon Fraser
1300 Asbury Avenue
Orlando, Fla. 32803

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320 East 42nd Street, Mezzanine
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